channels would also be available to subscribers within the maximum amount mentioned.

(ii) Consumers will have the choice to pay for only those pay channels which they choose to watch.

(iii) Consumers will have a control over the content they wish to view.

(iv) It has been made obligatory for cable operators to make provisions for rent, security deposit, repair and maintenance of Set Top Boxes (STB).

(v) Some MSOs/Cable Operators have come out with consumer friendly schemes through which the STBs will be made available to consumers.

(vi) Government has reduced the duty on import of STBs and its components to make them more affordable.

(c) and (d) STB will be required for viewing pay channels only and not for FTA channels. Subscribers who cannot afford STBs would have the benefit of watching at least 30 free-to-air channels. Some MSOs have indicated that they would have the capacity to show 60-70 free-to-air channels in their networks.

Violation of the guidelines for cricket telecasting

1338. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan has threatened to sue the private TV channels for the prolonged use of DD's cricket footage;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the private TV channels have violated the DD guidelines in telecasting cricket matches held recently; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) After observing that certain channels were unauthorisedly using the footage

of the recently concluded BC€I Cricket Matches, telecast on DD-National and DD-Sports, in violation of the rights vested in Doordarshan, all TV channels were advised by Prasar Bharati through an advertisement in the Press to refrain from breach of the rights vested in Doordarshan, failing which Doordarshan will be constrained to initiate appropriate legal proceeding against the offending channels.

Employees in Prasar Bharati

1339. MISS MABGL REBELLO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees working in Prasar Bharati;

(b) out of the above, how many employees are engineers and how many are technical and non-technical and programmers in editorial team; and

(c) the total percentage of revenue spent to the staff of Prasar Bharati, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati has informed the total number of employees in Prasar Bharati and their category-wise break-up as follows:

	Prog	Engg	Admn	News	Total
AIR	4172	5266	9547	360	19345
DD	3767	12162	5684	170	21783
Total	7939	17428	15231	530	41128

The percentage of revenue spent on salaries etc. of the staff is 41.28% in Doordarshan and 20.25% in AIR.

Rural channels

1340. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan has decided to launch 1,000 rural chanels in the country;